

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJECT: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD'S VIEWS ON
STRUCTURE AND RESOLUTION ISSUES

REF: (A) GENEVA 8225, (B) GENEVA 8045, (C) GENEVA 8020

1. AMBASSADOR VANDEN HEUVEL, ACCOMPANIED BY DCM, LABOR
DEPT. OFFICIAL QUACKENBUSH AND LABATT, MET WITH ILO
DG BLANCHARD JUNE 1, AT LATTER'S REQUEST. BLANCHARD
REVIEWED SUBJECT ISSUES.

2. ON STRUCTURE, BLANCHARD REPEATED THEME REPORTED REF A,
ADDING TWO IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS. FIRST, HIS RECENT
DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW CONVINCED HIM THAT
THE RUSSIANS WANT THE UNITED STATES TO RETURN TO THE ILO.
SECOND, THE TRIPARTITE WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE WILL
RECOMMEND TO THE ILO CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURE
THAT THE WORKING PARTY BE EXTENDED FOR ONE YEAR. HE
BELIEVED THE RECOMMENDATION, A G-77 INITIATIVE, WILL BE
ACCEPTED BY THE ILO CONFERENCE. THE PERIOD WILL PROVIDE
AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT GROUPS TO WORK OUT
LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD: (A) REMOVE THE REFERENCE TO "THE
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE" IN PARA 3 OF THE
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DRAFT PAPER ON POINTS OF AGREEMENT CONCERNING ARTICLE 7
(REF B), AND (B) GUARANTEE THE SOVIETS A CONTINUATION OF
THEIR SEAT ON THE GOVERNING BODY THROUGH AN ELECTORAL
PROCESS, WHICH, BLANCHARD SAID, IS THEIR PRINCIPLE
IMMEDIATE INTEREST.

3. BLANCHARD ACKNOWLEDGED THAT OUR CONCERNS ABOUT IDENTI-

FICATION OF ILO MEMBERS ALONG IDEOLOGICAL LINES WERE
LEGITIMATE AND APPRECIATED BY BOTH THE G-77 AND IMEC
COUNTRIES. HE FELT CONFIDENT THEY WOULD USE THE INTER-
VENING MONTHS TO FIND MORE ACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE IN TERMS
OF OUR CONCERNS. REMINDING BLANCHARD OF U.S. OPPOSITION
TO ANY ALTERATION OF THE PRESENT STRUCTURE OF THE
GOVERNING BODY, AMBASSADOR UNDERScoreD POINT THAT IMEC
AND G-77 INTEREST IN AVOIDING IDEOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION
OF MEMBER STATES SHOULD BE A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE RATHER
THAN A GESTURE TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES. BLANCHARD
AGREED. VANDEN HEUVEL

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